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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows, so that the claims currently pending read as follows:

- 1-24. (Cancelled)
25. (New) A method for connecting to a network, the method comprising:
receiving a network connection request at a system master;
determining availability of at least one embedded device, the embedded device embedded in a vehicle, and at least one portable network access device, based on the network connection request;
determining capability of the at least one embedded device and at least one portable network access device based on their availability; and
initiating a connection to the network using one of the at least one embedded device or at least one portable network access device based on the capability determination.
26. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the system master is the embedded device.
27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the capability determination is based on factors selected from the group consisting of battery life viability, relative signal strength indication, service availability, type of service and call state
28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the battery life viability is based on a power state and a power life.
29. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising:
determining a calibrated threshold for the battery life viability.

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30. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising:
determining the battery life viability if the calibrated threshold is exceeded.
31. (New) The method of claim 30, further comprising:
determining a calibrated threshold for the received signal strength indication.
32. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising:
determining the received signal strength indication if the calibrated threshold
is exceeded.
33. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the type of service is analog
communication, digital communication, satellite communication, and global system for
mobile communication.
34. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein receiving a network connection
request comprises establishing a link between the embedded device and the portable network
access device.
35. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the embedded device includes a
global positioning receiver capable of providing vehicle positioning information.
36. (New) The method of claim 25 further comprising retrying the connection
initiation if the connection was not established.

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37. (New) A computer usable medium including a program for connecting to a network, the medium comprising:

computer readable code for receiving a network connection request at a system master;

computer readable code for determining availability of at least one embedded device, the embedded device embedded in a vehicle, and at least one portable network access device based on the network connection request;

computer readable code for determining capability of the at least one embedded device and at least one portable network access device based on their availability; and

computer readable code for initiating a connection to the network using one of the at least one embedded device or at least one portable network access device based on the capability determination.

38. (New) The medium of claim 37 wherein the system master is the embedded device.

39. (New) The medium of claim 37, wherein the capability determination is based on factors selected from the group consisting of battery life viability, relative signal strength indication, service availability, type of service and call state

40. (New) The medium of claim 38, wherein the battery life viability is based on a power state and a power life.

41. (New) The medium of claim 38, further comprising:
computer readable code for determining a calibrated threshold for the battery life viability.

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42. (New) The medium of claim 41, further comprising:
computer readable code for determining the battery life viability if the
calibrated threshold is exceeded.
43. (New) The medium of claim 37, further comprising:
computer readable code for determining a calibrated threshold for the received
signal strength indication.
44. (New) The medium of claim 43, further comprising:
computer readable code for determining the received signal strength
indication if the calibrated threshold is exceeded.
45. (New) The medium of claim 37, wherein the type of service is analog
communication, digital communication, satellite communication, and global system for
mobile communication.
46. (New) A system for connecting to a network, the system comprising:
means for receiving a network connection request at a system master;
means for determining availability of at least one embedded device, the
embedded device embedded in a vehicle, and at least one portable network access device
based on the network connection request;
means for determining capability of the at least one embedded device and at
least one portable network access device based on their availability; and
means for initiating a connection to the network using one of the at least one
embedded device or at least one portable network access device based on the capability
determination.